Statement-II

No. of Boreholes proposed to be drilled by ÇGWB in the State of Gujarat during 1996-97

District	No. of Boreholes proposed to be drilled			
	Explora-tory Wells	Observa-tion Wells	Piezo-meters	Total
Mehsana	4	11	4	19
Ahmedabad	-	-	1	1
Banaskantha	1	1	12	14
Surendranagar	-	-	7	7
Rajkot	16	14	-	30
Balsad	6	4	-	10
Surat	2	-	-	2
TOTAL	29	30	24	83

Indians in Myanmar Jail

1967. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that some Indians are now in the Tamu Jail of Myanmar;

(b) if so, the number of Indians in the jail and the regions they hail from; and

(c) whether Government are taking up any steps with the Myanmar Government through diplomatic level to get them released?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) According to information available with Government there are 14 Indian nationals in Tamu Jail of Myanmar. The Myanmar Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on being requested by our Embassy, has provided only the names of the detainees, from which it is not possible to establish as to from which regions they hail. Additional information is being sought and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) The Mission is in regular touch with the Myanmar Foreign Office regarding the welfare and early release of the Indians. The local authorities have informed our Ambassador that the detainees would be promptly released on completion of their prison terms.

Unprovoked firing by Pakistani troops

1968. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani forces resorted to frequent unprovoked firings across the borders and LOC along Jammu and Kashmir during the recent assembly elections in the State, besides perpetrating militancy, infiltration of militants and smuggling of arms;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) to (c) Unprovoked firing by the Pakistani troops across the line of Control and international border in Jammu & Kashmir is a recurring phenomenon. During the period from 7th to 30th September, 1996 when Assembly elections were held in the State, Pakistan resorted to unprovoked heavy firing in almost all the Sectors of LOC and IB in J&K. There were 184 such incidents. A befitting response is given by the Indian troops in all such incidents of firing.

Upgradation of the Status of Charge-De-Affairs

1969. SHRI MD. SALIM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the reasons for not upgrading the status of the Charge-de-Affairs to Ambassadorial rank and failing to sign the resolution at the UN. for the implementation of the UN resolution on Western Sahara?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : No proposal has been received for upgrading the status of the Charge-de-affairs of the Saharwi Arab Democratic Republic to Ambassadorial rank.

India has supported all UN resolutions concerning Western Sahara.

Camel Riding Allowance to BSF Personnel

1970. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAIPATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to grant camel riding allowance to the BSF personnel of Gujarat and Rajasthan posted on the Western